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Karen Fazzani
Executive Officer
Loddon Mallee Waste and Resource Recovery Group

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Dear Ms Fazzani

Loddon Mallee Waste and Resource Recovery Group & Ors applications for authorisation A91596 & A91597 — interim authorisation decision

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has decided to grant interim authorisation in respect of the applications for authorisation lodged by Loddon Mallee Waste and Resource Recovery Group (LMWRRG) on 17 August 2017.

Interim authorisation is granted for LMWRRG, the City of Greater Bendigo, Mount Alexander Shire and Macedon Ranges Shire, to jointly develop requests for tenders and negotiate with selected service providers for certain waste and resource recovery services. Interim authorisation was not sought and is not granted to enter into or give effect to waste and resource recovery contracts. A copy of the ACCC's interim authorisation decision is attached.

Interim authorisation protects the arrangements for which authorisation is sought from legal action under the relevant provisions of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* while the ACCC considers and evaluates the merits of the application.

Next steps

For your information, the next step in the process is for the ACCC to release a draft determination which will take account of any submissions from LMWRRG and interested parties and will indicate the ACCC's preliminary views on the merits of the application. The ACCC will give both LMWRRG and interested parties the opportunity to provide a further submission on the draft determination before the ACCC issues its final decision.

As noted in the attached decision, the ACCC may review its decision on interim authorisation at any time. In this regard the ACCC will reconsider this decision at the time of issuing its draft determination. The ACCC's decision in relation to interim authorisation should not be taken to be indicative of whether or not final authorisation will be granted by the ACCC.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Theo Kelly on (02) 6243 1179 or adjudication@acc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Darrell Channing
Director
Adjudication Branch